

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 DODE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 SP-02
/058 W

-----086793 271302Z /40

R 271229Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1519

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6354

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, EWWT, ETEL, SP
SUBJECT: OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM

1. PURSUANT TO COAST GUARD REQUEST CONVEYED BY DEPT,
THIS MISSION THROUGH MAAG JUNE 17 RAISED WITH SPANISH
NAVY QUESTION OF AGREEMENT TO PLACE A MONITOR RECEIVER
FOR THE OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM IN THE CANARY ISLANDS.
SPANISH NAVY REPLY, DATED JULY 19, ADVISED THAT MARITIME
SIGNAL AND NAVAIDS SYSTEMS COME UNDER MINISTRY OF PUBLIC
WORKS AND URBANISM, AND THEREFORE REQUEST SHOULD BE
PROCESSED THROUGH THE POLITICAL-MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

2. IN MY MEETING WITH HIM ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, FIRST
VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEFENSE MATTERS AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE
GUTIERREZ MELLADO RAISED THE QUESTION OF THIS MONITORING
STATION. HE WAS CONCERNED BECAUSE OF THE REPEATED STORIES
AND SUBSEQUENT NEED FOR DENIALS OF US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS
IN THE CANARIES, AND GOS SENSITIVITIES TO ANYTHING REGARDING
THE ISLANDS. WHILE GUTIERREZ MELLADO RECOGNIZED THE
INHERENT BENEFITS TO NAVIGATION, HE FEARED THAT IF THE
MATTER BECAME PUBLIC, IT WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE RELATED TO
A US MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE CANARIES AND WOULD CAUSE
CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES FOR GOS THROUGH PLAYING INTO
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THE HANDS OF CUBILLO AND THE CANARIES INDEPENDENCE
MOVEMENT. HE HOPED WE WOULD UNDERSTAND GOS PROBLEMS. I
TOLD HIM THAT WE ALSO CONSISTENTLY DENIED STORIES REGARDING
US MILITARY PRESENCE AND THAT IN LIGHT OF HIS CONCERNS,
I WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER FURTHER.

3. AFTER FURTHER CONSIDERATION, AND IN LIGHT OF HIGHER

PRIORITY NEEDS IN THE MILITARY AREA, I HAVE CONCLUDED
THAT WE WILL NOT PURSUE THE OMEGA QUESTION AT THIS TIME.
I HAVE INFORMED GUTIERREZ MELLADO IN THIS SENSE,
WHILE AT THE SAME TIME STRESSING TO HIM THE CIVILIAN
CHARACTER OF THE PROJECT.

4. I SHALL KEEP THE MATTER UNDER REVIEW, AND AT SUCH
TIME AS I FEEL THAT THINGS HAVE PROGRESSED SUFFICIENTLY
IN OTHER FIELDS, EMBASSY WILL RAISE IT AGAIN AS A MATTER
BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE MINISTRY
OF PUBLIC WORKS AND URBANISM. STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, NAVIGATION SATELLITES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1459933
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM
TAGS: EAIR, EWWT, ETEL, SP
To: STATE
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